

Members' Library Service Request Form

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Document Title	'My Place, My Space' Project

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Additional information:

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Designation	Head of Development
Date	20/03/19

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REPORT TO: Members' Library Service

MEETING DATE:

BY: Depute Chief Executive (Partnerships and Community Services)

SUBJECT: 'My Place, My Space' Project

1 PURPOSE

- 1.1 To note the award of funding from the Life Changes Trust towards the implementation of a three-year pilot for care experienced young people through a peer flatmate scheme.

2 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 Members are asked to note the award by the Life Changes Trust of £307,000 towards the implementation of the 'My Place, My Space' project and the contribution from the Council to purchase ten larger properties over a three year period from the open market as part of the Council's Affordable Housing Programme.

3 BACKGROUND

- 3.1 The Life Changes Trust was established in April 2013 with a ten year £50million endowment from the Big Lottery Fund, to create transformational improvements in the quality of life and wellbeing of care experienced young people (14-26 year olds). This includes any person with an experience of being in care regardless of placement type or length and includes young people looked after at home. The funding has been allocated to East Lothian Council from their 'Home and Belonging' project, which has been designed to provide 'an inspiring opportunity to re-imagine what a fulfilling future can look like for a care experienced young person, based on a safe, welcoming and personal space –their home'. The specific aims of the fund are to;

- Encourage the design of new, innovative models of living for care experienced young people beyond their placements; and
 - Encourage the design of service approaches that transform the path to adulthood for care experienced young people
- 3.2 East Lothian Council's 'My Place, My space' project was developed in collaboration with the Care Experienced Young People's Champions Board, Children's Services and the Housing Strategy Team along with other key partners including Public Health, Queen Margaret University and Who Cares Scotland.
- 3.3 The 'My Place, My Space' pilot has three main components:
- The development of a new shared-living housing model;
 - Individual grants; and
 - The creation of a full-time job for one care experienced young person
- 3.4 Over a period of three years, ten properties will be bought on the open market as part of the Council's Affordable Housing Programme. Two will be purchased in 2019, four in 2020 and four in 2021. These properties will become part of East Lothian's council housing stock.
- 3.5 Through providing 10 properties over a period of three years, up to 20 care experienced young people will be supported by a peer flatmate (recruited from Queen Margaret University), a housing support provider, a care experienced research and link worker, and East Lothian Council as the tenancy management agent.
- 3.6 Each tenancy will be made up of two care experienced young people and a peer flatmate. The peer flatmate will bring a degree of stability and knowledge about life skills and tenancy management. This will help create an environment in which care experienced young people will be encouraged to live independently and create a home for themselves. The role is voluntary, with rent and costs such as Wi-Fi for the peer flatmate covered through the fund.
- 3.7 Individual grant funds will be made available for each care experienced young person involved in the flat share pilot. This money will be used to help the individual create a sense of home and belonging. For example, it might go towards a gym membership, college course or personal touches for the flat
- 3.8 The project will also recruit a care experienced research and link worker. There are two aspects to the Research and Link Worker role;
- (1). Research; the Worker will work alongside Community Housing, Homelessness and Housing Strategy Teams to evaluate the experience of care leavers within these areas. They will then provide a series of recommendations.

(2). Link; the Worker will work with the young people engaged with 'My Space, My Place' to help them develop a sense of home and belonging. They will support the peer flatmate by providing a 'lived experience' point of view. They will also work alongside The Champions Board to ensure that they contribute into the research, and facilitate ongoing awareness raising within all Council departments.

- 3.9 The creation of the research and link worker job reflects East Lothian Council's ongoing commitment as a corporate parent. Ensuring that care experienced young people are given the opportunity to develop employable skills to equip them for future employment. The role also recognises the expertise of lived experience in shaping and informing services.
- 3.10 The flat-share project will be underpinned by a trauma-informed approach, recognising that a positive environment and strength-based process are key to the resilience of care experienced young people. This will be developed through best-practice evidence, collaboration with public health partners and psychologists, and the NHS Lothian's River Centre.
- 3.11 Central to the project is the role of care experienced young people in the continuing development of the service model. This recognises the importance of lived-experience and that the individual is often the expert in their own situation. This will be utilised through the creation of a tenants influence Panel who will work alongside Council officers and the Research and Link worker to develop monitor and improve the 'My Place, My Space' Project.
- 3.12 The key objective of the 'My Place, My Space' project is provide secure, safe and stable housing option for care experienced young people in East Lothian; reduce isolation which many care experienced young people face when they have their own tenancy, provide young people with the tools and skills to live independently, and improve mental and physical wellbeing through housing stability.
- 3.13 Through the support, guidance and stability provided by 'My Place, My Space', care experienced young people will be supported to move on to their own Council or RSL tenancy in their own time. They will have developed the resilience, skills and confidence to successfully sustain their own home

4 POLICY IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 The 'My Place, My Space' project reflects East Lothian Council Local Housing Strategy 2018-23 to ensure there is appropriate accommodation for Care Experienced Young People.
- 4.2 The 'My Place, My Space' project meets four outcomes in *Children's Services Plan 2017-20*;

- Care experienced people feel listened to and their views acted on
- Young people are supported to have their voice heard and used to inform decisions about their lives
- Young people inform multi-agency service planning and delivery
- Young people and their families are treated fairly and supported to overcome inequalities they have experienced.

5 INTERGRATED IMPACT ASSESSMENT

5.1 Attached

6 RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS

Financial – The Council has set its Affordable Housing Programme Budget for the next five years which includes for ten properties to be purchased from the open market each year. The ten units identified for this project will be included within the open market purchases already approved, with two purchased within 2019/20, four in 2020/21 and a further 4 in 2021/22.

- 6.1 In the context of increasing housing pressures for care experienced young people but also more widely in respect of other homelessness action plan and proposed RRTP interventions, the Council will look to deliver savings where housing costs are accounted for, with up to 20 care experienced young people based in B&B accommodation each year in East Lothian.
- 6.2 The peer flatmates rents and the Wi-Fi provision for both the peer flatmates and the care experienced young person will be met through the fund.
- 6.3 In a context of reduced public spending and working collaboratively, the commitment to this project is anticipated to create significant savings. If 10 of the 20 individuals lived in the flat share scheme rather than in B&B for a period of year, the estimated savings would total £297,600. This money could potentially be re-invested to continue funding the project when the funding allocation ends or develop alternative housing solutions.

6.4 Personnel – Staff time will be required to develop and monitor the service.

6.5 Other – none

7 BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 7.1 Life Changes Trust Bid – appendix A
- 7.2 Letter of award – appendix B
- 7.3 Project Plan – appendix C

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DESIGNATION	Head of Development Head of Children and Adult Services
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Question 1: Proposal Summary

Detail the proposal, highlighting; what **need** your project will try to address; what **resources** it will need; what **activities** are involved; **who** will be involved in it; **what the timescales are?**

NEED

Housing in East Lothian is under significant pressure, with an increasing population, an increasing demand for groups requiring one bedroom properties and rising costs of housing prices. There are currently 3,700 households on the Council's housing list and around 500 lets per annum. A shortage of affordable housing is a significant issue in East Lothian, with 370 additional affordable homes estimated to be needed each year until 2030. A lack of one bedroom properties, an unaffordable private rented sector, and a lack of flat sharing opportunities all impact upon the ability of care experienced young people to access sustainable housing.

East Lothian Council is committed to supporting the Scottish Government's 'More Homes Scotland' approach to provide 50,000 new affordable homes by 2020, with 35,000 for social rent. The commitment to £2.5million by East Lothian Council towards 10 flats, also supports the move towards a Rapid Rehousing Approach. Rapid Rehousing seeks to support individuals into permanent, mainstream accommodation as the first option. This recognises the harm and detrimental effect stays in B&B accommodation can have.

The Council's 15+ Team currently supports 110 care experienced young people, of which 70 are no longer looked after, to live independently where possible. However, 24 of these young people are living in inappropriate accommodation which includes, B&B, sofa surfing with friends/relatives or living with foster carers, with limited options for move on accommodation.

In a context of reduced public spending, the commitment to this project is anticipated to create significant savings. If 10 of the 20 individuals lived in the flat share scheme rather than a B&B for a period of a year, the estimated savings would total £297,600. The savings made from inappropriate accommodation can then be used to re-invest in the project once the funding has come to an end or look to develop alternative housing solutions and support for care experienced young people.

The 'My Space, My Place' project will provide a much needed housing solution in East Lothian for care experienced young people and for East Lothian Council to further develop their role as a corporate parent.

WHAT?

In order to ensure that care experienced young people are equipped with the relevant skills to manage, sustain and importantly, enjoy a home, our 'My Space, My Place' project includes wraparound support.

Through providing 10 properties over a period of three years, up to 20 care experienced young people will be supported by a Peer Flatmate (recruited from Queen Margaret

University and potentially rolled out to Napier and Herriot Watt University), a Housing Support Provider, a Care Experienced Research and Link Worker, and East Lothian Council as the tenancy management agent.

Each tenancy will be made up of two care experienced young people and a peer flatmate. The care experienced young people might come from B&Bs, straight from foster care, or they might already be living in their own tenancy but feel that they are not coping well or feel isolated. The peer flatmate will bring a degree of stability and knowledge about life skills and tenancy management. This will help create an environment in which care experienced young people will be encouraged to live independently and create a home for themselves.

The final element is the employment of a care experienced Research and Link Worker. East Lothian Council is committed to providing care experienced young people with the necessary skills to gain meaningful employment. There are two aspects to the Research and Link Worker role;

1. Research; the Worker will work alongside Community Housing, Homelessness and Housing Strategy Teams to evaluate the experience of care leavers within these areas. They will then provide a series of recommendations.
2. Link; the Worker will work with the young people engaged with 'My Space, My Place' to help them develop a sense of home and belonging. They will support the Peer Flatmate by providing a 'lived experience' point of view. They will also work alongside The Champions Board to ensure that they contribute into the research, and facilitate ongoing awareness raising within all Council departments.

Overall, our 'My Space, My Place' project is underpinned by the following principles;

1. Trauma Informed – an understanding that the impact of trauma can be widespread, a commitment to recognising the signs and symptoms of trauma and responding by fully integrating knowledge about trauma into policies, procedures and practises, including actively seeking to resist re-traumatising.
2. Resilience – a commitment to providing an adequate environment and support system to allow young people to; build further networks of support, develop skills to navigate services, understand and utilise rights and responsibilities, and have the ability to engage in activities with seek to reduce inequalities.
3. Empowerment, Voice and Control – a commitment to providing an adequate environment and support system to enable young people to make informed choices, feel confident in their decisions and be able to access the right information at the right time.
4. Equality and Diversity – a commitment to ensure that young people are treated equally, and enjoy an environment free from bullying, harassment and discrimination, where ethnic background, language, culture and faith are valued.

WHO IS INVOLVED?

The following partners will help ensure that care experienced young people, Peer Flatmates and Research and Link Workers are all provided with adequate training, support and advice.

East Lothian Council

The following aspects of tenancy management will be specific for the 10 'My Space, My Place' tenancies;

- **Separate housing and housing support services** - Evidence suggests that having separate providers of tenancy support and management is key to tenancy sustainment for households who have particular needs and may need extra support. Taking account of this, East Lothian Council will provide the Tenancy Management role for the 10 properties. This will ensure that engagement with one service does not impact the other. For example, if the tenant leaves the tenancy, support will continue for a period of three months and then be transferred to East Lothian Council's Tenancy Support Team. In the flat share, if tenants do not engage with support services, their tenancy remains unaffected.
- **Tenancy Management** will be provided by the Musselburgh Housing Team. This will ensure continuity of staff in the long term if the tenant decides to remain in the property (as is their right) after the three year pilot or move to their own Council Tenancy.
- **Eviction** – Rather than progressing an eviction policy, a Support Intervention Process will be implemented at the earliest opportunity. This can be triggered by the Housing Support Provider, Link Worker or East Lothian Council (and the Peer Flatmate via one of these agencies). This process will ensure no young person is evicted from the tenancies, but are supported to remain, and only as a last resort, supported to access alternative accommodation.
- **Door Open Policy** - East Lothian Council understands that arguments and disagreements are common in flat-shares, especially where young people are involved. As care experienced young people learn to navigate relationships in the flat-share situation, East Lothian Council will operate a 'Door Open Policy'. This means that where a young person leaves in an unplanned, impulsive situation the tenancy will remain open to the individual for a period of up to three months. Thereafter, the young person will continue to be supported by the lead agencies in securing alternative accommodation.
- **Anti-Social Behaviour Orders** – ASB Orders will be avoided at all costs for individuals in 'My Space, My Place' tenancies. Through the creation of Acceptable Behaviour Contracts and the promotion of 'elastic tolerance' within tenancy management team tenants engaging in what would be termed 'ASB' will be aided to access the required support. This might include affordable leisure passes for young people or encouraging the young person to organise their social activities for the week.

- **Property Maintenance** – With the tenants consent, East Lothian Council will implement a flagging system which lets the Property Maintenance team know that the individuals in the property may require more support. A lead contact will be identified for Peer Flatmates to contact. These lead contacts will be required to undergo further Corporate Parent Awareness Sessions and will be supported to adopt 'elastic tolerance'.
- **Housing List**- Although individuals will be given a Scottish Secure Tenancy and the option to remain in the flat share indefinitely, they will also remain on the Council's housing list. This will ensure that the individual's future housing choices are not limited. In addition to this, the actions of the young person in the flat-share will not impact on a future tenancy, except to inform specific support which may be required.
- **Trauma-Informed Environments** – Through East Lothian's Health and Social Care Partnership, clinical psychologists will work alongside housing management teams to ensure that a trauma informed approach is taken to management policies. In addition, prior to obtaining, decorating and providing furniture for the properties, East Lothian Council will work alongside the Rivers Centre in Edinburgh to ensure a psychologically informed environment is created. The Rivers Centre is a trauma centre which supports individuals in Edinburgh and the Lothian's. They are keen to share their research and developments on psychologically informed environment.

Housing Support Provider

A Service Specification has been provided in Supporting Paper 1 of this application. Key aspects of the Housing Support Provider are detailed below;

- Tenants of 'My Space, My Place' will be given the support to save for a deposit which could be used for a Private Rented Sector tenancy. This allows further housing options to be opened up to them in the long term.
- The Housing Support Provider will provide pre-tenancy training to all individuals of 'My Space, My Place' and will be the key link between the tenant and the Peer Flatmate.
- The Housing Support Provider will recruit, train and manage up to 10 Peer Flatmates over the period of three years. They will provide a 24/7 advice line.

Who Cares? Scotland

Who Cares? Scotland will recruit and manage one care experienced Research and Link Worker who will be based between Children's Services and Community Housing.

Queen Margaret University

Extending its role, Queen Margaret University will continue to partner with East Lothian Council, and aid in the advertising of the Peer Flatmate. Through their key position as part of the *HUB for Success*, Queen Margaret University will lead on advertising the opportunity, extending it to Napier and Herriot Watt University where required.

Volunteer and Job Roles

A number of volunteer and job opportunities will be created through 'My Space, My Place'. These are as follows;

Peer Flatmate - A Volunteer Description and Person Specification has been provided in Supporting Paper 2 of this application.

The role of the Peer Flatmate is to help reduce isolation and bring experience to the flat share project. They will also help generate feelings of home and belonging to the individuals within the project. This reflects what many Care Experienced Young People have told us; that simply having a house is not enough, it's the community and people around the individual which creates a sense of belonging.

Research and Link Worker - A Job Description and Person Specification has been provided in Supporting Paper 3 of this application.

Resources Required

Please see *Supporting Paper 4: Resources Required*, for specific details around the funding.

Funding Life Changes Trust		East Lothian Council	
Year One: £25,581.00	Start-up costs, Housing support, training, furnishing and grants.	Year One: £500,000	Purchase two properties on the open market
Year Two: £109,065.10	Housing support, training, creation of a new post and grants.	Year Two: £1 million	Purchase four properties on the open market
		Office Space for 6 months, 35 hours per week.	Research Link Worker (35 hours per week)
		Staff Time for up to 10 hours per week for 6 months.	Supervision and guidance for Research and Link Worker
Year Three: £172,110.00	Housing Support, grants, training, and ongoing development of new post.	Year Three: £1 million	Purchase four properties on the open market
		Office Space for one year, 35 hours per week.	Research Link Worker (35 hours per week)

		Staff Time for up to 10 hours per week for One Year.	Supervision and guidance for Research and Link Worker. Support to enable them to find employment once contract ends.
Total: £306,756		Total: £2.5million	

Timescales

0 – 6 MONTHS
Purchase two properties
Set up working group to agree specific policies, protocols, as well as supporting and provide continual evaluation of Flat share Scheme
Assign <i>Housing Support Provider</i> via procurement
Start recruitment process for Peer Flatmates – recruit two
Start awareness raising for Shared Flatmate Scheme – accept four care experienced young people
6 – 12 MONTHS
Four care experienced young people and two Peer Flatmates move into properties.
Start recruitment process with Who Cares? Scotland for one Care Experienced Research and Link Worker.
Agree work plan with relevant departments for Research and Link Worker
Receive feedback from first two flat share schemes to input into second year of scheme.
Ongoing advertising and recruitment for Peer Flatmates and Care Experienced Young People
Working Group continuing to monitor service, and start to think about future funding options / savings being made by the scheme.
Begin process for purchasing eight properties over the next two years via open market acquisition for the project.
18 – 24 MONTHS
Research and Link Worker begins post
Research and Link Worker begins evaluation of housing and homelessness policies and protocols in relation to care experienced young people.
Working Group continuing to monitor service, and start to think about future funding options / savings being made by the scheme.
Ongoing advertising and recruitment for Peer Flatmates and Care Experienced Young People
Four properties purchased and ready for move in.
24 – 30 MONTHS
Eight Care Experienced Young People and Four Peer Mentors move into properties.

Research and Link Worker begins evaluation of flat share Scheme.
Working Group continuing to monitor service, and start to think about future funding options / savings being made by the project.
30 – 36 MONTHS
Four properties purchased and prepared for move in.
The Research and Link Worker is supported to develop their CV and look for further work in preparation of funding coming to an end.
Working Group continuing to monitor service, and begin to make recommendations for post-funding.
36 – 42 MONTHS
Eight Care Experienced Young People and Four Peer Mentors move into properties
Research Link Worker presents series of recommendations for housing and homelessness departments, as well as the flat share scheme. This will include recommendations on the potential continuation of model or model adaptations.
Working group agree on future of flat share schemes in East Lothian.

Question 2: Please tell us about your engagement with young people

In 2016, funding from The Life Changes Trust enabled East Lothian Council and Who Cares? Scotland to support care experienced young people to develop The Champions Board. The Board was set up to give care experience young people a voice and influence change within East Lothian Council. One of their most successful projects included a [short film about their experience of the housing system in East Lothian](#). The impact of this film led to a roll out of Corporate Parent Awareness Sessions which were made compulsory for all Housing staff in 2018. These sessions were principally delivered by the Champions Board.

The creation of 'My Space, My Place' bid is a direct result from the efforts of The Champion Board in raising awareness of the *need* for new models of housing in East Lothian. Throughout the creation of this bid, care experienced young people and The Champions Board have continued to be involved;

1. One care experienced young person attended the prototype workshop facilitated by The Life Changes Trust. This was a critical time in processing our thoughts on the application, and the young person contributed to developing our thoughts around the model as well as the final idea for the submitted prototype.
2. The champions were briefed on the housing proposal and contributed to the design of the prototype using lego modelling.
3. Queen Margaret University facilitated a joint workshop between Care Experienced Students and members of East Lothian Council's Champions Board. During this workshop, the proposed model was discussed and critiqued by the young people.
4. Following a draft review of the bid by a team of Housing and Social Work Officers at East Lothian Council, the bid was then taken back to the Champions Board before the final model was created.

It is anticipated that care experienced young people will continue to be involved, taking on key roles in the development of 'My Space, My Place' as it develops. The involvement will be as follows;

1. The employment of a care experienced Research and Link Worker^s for a period of 18 months, not only provides this individual with meaningful job experience with assistance to move on, but will also aid the involvement of care experienced young people through-out East Lothian. One example of the work Research and Link Worker will be involved in is facilitating quarterly meetings with Peer Flatmates and Tenants to be fed back at the Operational Working Group, which they will occupy a permanent seat at.
2. As the project covers a three year period, with tenancies increasing each year care experienced tenants will take a key role in providing feedback, evaluation and shaping the next stage of tenancies. They will also work with Officers to create a measure for success.
3. During the development phase of 'My Space, My Place', as policies and protocols are shaped, The Champions Board will act as a consultation hub, where the policies are tested and evaluated.

Question 3: How does your project meet the aims of Home and Belonging?

- Privileging the needs of care experienced young people over the needs of services and institutions

'My Space, My Place' prioritises the needs of care experienced young people over that of services and institutions through the commitment to develop psychologically informed policies and protocols for housing management. The creation of Pathway Plans, Acceptable Behaviour Contracts and 'Elastic Tolerance' attitudes, all serve to support and benefit care experienced young people to be given the time and patience to develop life skills.

- Demonstrating belief and trust in care experienced young people

'My Space, My Place' is a direct outcome of the work of The Champions Board. This demonstrates that East Lothian Council has listened to and put trust in the lived experience of care experienced young people in the creation of the Flat-share model. East Lothian Council's commitment to ongoing engagement, which goes beyond the traditional consultation process, and offers care experienced young people a 'seat at the table' during the creation, development and evaluation of this model demonstrates trust and belief that care experienced young people are the experts in what is best for them.

- Providing opportunities for the wider community to get involved

'My Space, My Place' has attracted support from Queen Margaret University, who also expect other university partners such as Edinburgh Napier and Heriot-Watt to commit to supporting the identification and recruitment of Peer Flatmates. The project has also engaged with the Musselburgh Area Partnership and specifically their Children's and Young Persons Group who have provided a letter of support for the project bid.

The involvement of Public Health colleagues in opening up training opportunities for the Peer Flatmate and Research and Link Worker, allows individuals to gain a range of different skills. It also allows vital links between Housing and Health to be made and promoted within the Flat share project.

The continual involvement of the Champions Board, and the potential to recruit more care experienced young people to the Board will expand the experience and reach of influence.

East Lothian Council has a strong partnership with STRiVE, who provide support, learning and development opportunities for individuals. Working alongside STRiVE, care experienced young people will be given the opportunity to volunteer within the community. This opportunity, seeks to give individuals an increased sense of belonging.

- Taking a positive approach to risk (risk aware rather than risk averse)

By promoting an 'elastic tolerance' attitude, East Lothian Council and The Champions Board will create specific tenancy management policies and protocols which make references to a number of risk factors. This will ensure that there will always be a plan in place to support staff in managing risks.

- Building wider networks of people with diverse perspectives which can include care experienced young people

‘My Space, My Place’ has been created through a range of discussions with partner agencies and young people. These include;

1. NHS Scotland, Health Promotion staff have helped shape the project, ensuring there is a direct link between health and housing. This has included committing training resources for Peer Flatmates i.e. Mental Health First Aid, Changing Behaviours, Tobacco and Alcohol Awareness Training.
2. Queen Margaret University facilitated a joint workshop with Care Experienced Students and The Champions Board. This allowed individuals who have progressed further to give their advice and opinions of what would have helped them in the past, as well as encouraging engagement between The Champions Board and the students.
3. Queen Margaret University also provided input through-out the creating of this project, which included input from Accommodation and Student Services staff on potential challenges and solutions to managing flat-shares.
4. As stated previously in this application, The Champions Board have been involved through-out the creation of the project. Their perspectives on the housing model, and identifying potential risks has been invaluable.
5. The flat-share model is not wholly unique, and has a range of evidence supporting its success. Engaging with evaluations from Thames Reach, Catch 22 and meetings with The Rock Trust in Edinburgh have allowed this project to take account of best practice. Engagement with third sector providers has also allowed the project to anticipate risk.

Question 4: Looking ahead to the end of your project, what do you hope to have achieved?

Through 'My Space, My Place', a legacy for care experienced young people and young people through-out East Lothian will be achieved through the following means;

- The 20 care experienced young people will have been supported to be able to make informed decisions about their future housing choices and will have achieved;
 - Their stated desired outcomes when it comes to health, education and employment.
 - Improved mental and physical health
 - Increased feelings of stability in their home life
 - An increased sense of belonging to the area with social networks to support its continuation
- This application recognises the lack of options for young people in East Lothian, and the need to use and promote innovative housing models as solutions. The flat share model will encourage a culture shift in East Lothian, where young people are able to see the advantages of living with their peers.
- The Research and Link Worker will aid East Lothian Council in their prevention and education agenda which seeks to ensure all young people have an understanding of the housing market in East Lothian and their own housing options, allowing them to make informed choices about their future.
- The purchasing of 10, three bedroom homes to create the flat share model will remain as care experienced young people's tenancies after the pilot.
- Through the Care Experienced Research and Link Workers and the continuing work of The Champions Board, the experience of care experienced young people and the challenges they may face will be communicated widely to frontline staff through-out East Lothian Council.
- Through research conducted by the Care Experienced Research and Link Workers alongside Housing Strategy and Children's Services, the strategic direction of housing and support for care experienced young people will be influenced.
- Sustainability and improved joint working practices to continue to provide alternative, supportive models as opposed to B&Bs.
- By testing this innovative model within the East Lothian's housing system, East Lothian Council recognises the importance of contributing locally and nationally to the evaluation and development of best practice housing models. This includes committing to sharing any learning during and after the three year period.

Resources Required - Life Changes Trust					
			Year 1	Year 2	Year 3
Estimated Rent for one Peer Flatmate per month:	£95.00		£1,095.00	£6,900.00	£11,500.00
HMO Licence, 3 years for one flat:	£420		£840.00	£1,680.00	£1,680.00
Estimated WiFi & Landline for one year:	£120		£240.00	£720	£1,200
Supply of standard furnishings which include; fridge/freezer, cooker, beds and mattresses and sofa. (For one flat)	£3,000		£6,000.00	£12,000	£12,000
Household Appliances; kettle, toaster, mugs, cutlery etc (For one flat)	£100		£200.00	£400	£400
TV (For one flat)	£150		£300.00	£600	£600
Housing Support					
Estimated cost per hour	£16.35				
First 10 weeks, 10 hours p/w for Care Experienced Young People	£1,635.00		£7,456	£42,114	£69,320
Remaining 42 weeks, 8 hours p/w for Care Experienced Young People	£5,493.60				
3 hours p/w for Peer Flatmate Support	£2,550.60		£2,550	15,303	25,506
Out of Hours Phone Line + additional duties (see Supporting Paper 1) (per year)	£10,000		£5,000	£10,000	£10,000
Training	£700		£900	£700	£700
Individual Grants per person	£500		£1,000	£2,000	£2,000
Research and Link Worker (18 month Contract)	£30,000		-	£16,649	£37,204

WHO CARES? SCOTLAND

East Lothian Proposal 35 hours per week

Draft budget 2019/22 35hours per week

Projected Expenditure	20/21	21/22
Salaries (including NI and Pensions)	£14,083.50	£28,590
Travel and Subsistence	£800	£1,632
CEYP Expenses/Project costs	£600	£1,224

Staff Training	£350	£714
Support Costs (IT, Telephone, Printing and stationary)	£815	£1,663
Overheads 10%	£1,665	£3,382
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	£16,648.50	£37,204

Total Project Costs;

Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Overall
£25,581.00	£109,065.10	£172,110.00	£306,756.10

Rebecca Pringle
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8 February 2019

Dear Rebecca

Ref: Home and Belonging Application (2019-2022)

I am pleased to advise you that the Life Changes Trust has agreed to award East Lothian Council and its partners funding to develop work on its Home and Belonging approach to benefit care experienced young people, subject to addressing a number of conditions and completing satisfactory due diligence checks.

I would like to congratulate you on your application and all your hard work to date. Your application was well-received by the Trust's Care Experienced Young People Programme Committee, and the panel were enthusiastic about the potential of the approach. We look forward to working with you over the next three years to improve outcomes for care experienced young people.

Edward House
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Glasgow G2 3EX

Telephone: 0141 212 9600

Email: enquiries@lifechangestrust.org.uk

Web: lifechangestrust.org.uk



Conditions of Funding

The Trust has agreed to set certain conditions of funding for all successful Home and Belonging applicants, which are set out below (some of which you may have already met). Individual applicants may also have their specific conditions which we will ask you to address prior to finalising your funding award (see next section).

Conditions for all applicants:

1. The work funded by the Life Changes Trust must focus on supporting improvements in the lives of care experienced young people aged 14-26 years old. Our funding can support work which has indirect benefits for a wider cohort of looked after children, but the focus must be on the age group outlined.
2. All Home and Belonging projects funded by the Trust will be required to participate in an overall evaluation of the initiative which the Trust will commission. All projects will also undertake self-evaluation, supported by the Trust.
3. Please provide written confirmation of any match funding included in your application if you have not already done so.
4. An outline Project Plan is required for all Home and Belonging projects, detailing main activities, timescales, lead responsibilities and linking these to the overall outcomes for the project. The Trust will provide a template for this, and the deadline for submission is **Wednesday 20 March 2019**. Please note, this should be an outline plan, so only up to two sides of A4 per year of the project is required.

A checklist is enclosed for you to complete. Please return this checklist via email to ceypapplications@lifechangestrust.org.uk as soon as possible, to arrive no later than **Wednesday 20 March 2019**.

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Due diligence

As East Lothian Council is currently in receipt of a Life Changes Trust funding award, no further due diligence is required at this stage.

We anticipate that if all of the above conditions can be met and the due diligence checks are completed satisfactorily your project will begin 1 April 2019. If you have any questions on any of the above please feel free to contact me. I have enclosed relevant contact numbers below.

Yours sincerely



Heather Coady
Programme Director

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Home and Belonging

Project Name: My Place, My Space

Timescale	Main Activities	Lead Person/Agency	Outcomes/Expected Impact
Year 1, Quarter 1 April – June 19	Set up 3 Groups to oversee project; Strategic Working Group, Operational Working Group, Communications Sub-group	Rebecca Pringle (Housing Strategy)	Cross sector/departmental input into key policies and procedures, ensure project is to time schedule and progressing well.
	Prepare Communications Strategy	Rebecca Pringle / Comms Team	Agree marketing approach to ensure consistency of message
	Begin procurement process for a housing support provider (HSP) and Who Cares? Scotland	Rebecca Pringle / Lisa Shine / Steph Irvine	Secure housing support provider to deliver housing support and peer flatmate support.
	Prepare relevant operational guidance and protocols to be approved by Operational Working Group	Rebecca Pringle / Steph Irvine / Emma Clater	A clear pathway is created to apply as a flatmate for care experienced young people. Tenancy management approach is clear.
	Start raising awareness of model (including senior management presentations, 15+ social work team, housing area teams, Queen Margaret University Careers Service)	Rebecca Pringle / Lisa Shine / Emma Clater	Create opportunities for wider community to be involved (Queen Margaret University) and achieve senior management buy-in.
	Begin OMA process	Rebecca Pringle / Estates Team	Aim to secure 2 properties on the open market for the Flatshare
	Advertise Peer Flatmate Role (Rolling Recruitment Process)	Queen Margaret University / HSP	Raise awareness of Peer Flatmate role for recruitment.

<p>Year 1, Quarter 2 Jul – Sept 19</p>	<p>Secure 2 properties</p> <p>Property Maintenance Checks carried out on the property</p> <p>Purchase furniture & Wi-Fi set up</p> <p>Select care experienced young people</p> <p>Housing Support Provider in place</p> <p>Recruitment for Research & Link Worker and post begins</p> <p>2 Peer Flatmates recruited and trained</p>	<p>Estates Team</p> <p>Property Maintenance</p> <p>Steph Irvine</p> <p>Steph Irvine / Emma Clater</p> <p>Rebecca Pringle</p> <p>Sharon Berrie/ Rebecca Pringle / 15+ team</p> <p>QMU / Housing Support Provider</p>	<p>Two properties bought for the project. Properties meet all standards and are safe to move into</p> <p>Properties are adequately furnished</p> <p>4 care experienced young people are given tenancies Housing Support provider is in place. A Care Experience Young Person is recruited to the post.</p> <p>Peer Flatmates are trained to begin posts.</p>
<p>Year 1, Quarter 3 Oct – Dec 19</p>	<p>Project begins – 4 care experienced young people and 2 peer flatmates enter the property.</p> <p>Tenant Influence Panel set up and meets for the first time</p> <p>Service Monitoring Group commences and meets quarterly.</p>	<p>Rebecca Pringle / Lisa Shine</p> <p>Research & Link Worker</p> <p>Rebecca Pringle</p>	<p>My Place, My Space begins</p> <p>Care experienced young people in the project are supported to create a Tenant Influence Panel.</p> <p>All stakeholders involved in the project meet to review and monitor the service.</p>
<p>Year 1, Quarter 4 Jan – Mar 20</p>	<p>Tenant Influence Panel meets for 2nd time</p> <p>Service Monitoring Group Meets</p>	<p>Research and Link Worker</p> <p>Rebecca Pringle</p>	<p>Tenants are supported to input into the project. All stakeholders involved in the project meet to review and monitor the service.</p>

	4 properties secured on the open market Begin Evaluations for Year 1 of project	Estates Team Rebecca Pringle / Lisa Shine / Research and Link Worker	Properties are bought for Year 2. Evaluations begin to ensure continuous learning
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Year 2, Quarter 1 April – June 19	Finish Year 1 Evaluations	Rebecca Pringle / Lisa Shine / Research & Link Worker	Evaluate against project aims and adapt as required.
	Property Maintenance Checks carried out	Property Maintenance	Properties meet all standards and are safe to move into
	Service Monitoring Group meets	Rebecca Pringle	All stakeholders involved in the project meet to review and monitor the service.
	Tenant Influence Panel meets	Research and Link Worker	Tenants are supported to input into the project.
	Complete first year evaluation of the project and implement necessary changes for Year 2	Rebecca Pringle / Research & Link Worker / Lisa Shine	Ensure project is achieving aims and implemented necessary adjustments.
	Targeted advertisement for Peer Flatmates	QMU / Housing Support Provider	Raise the profile of peer flatmates ahead of recruitment
	Research & Link Worker begins full-time	Sharon Berrie / Rebecca Pringle / Lisa Shine	Research & Link Worker expands hours in preparation for Year 2 increase in tenants

Year 2, Quarter 2 Jul – Sept 19	<p>8 care experienced young people selected and matched</p> <p>Furniture/ Wi-Fi Furniture Set Up Tenant Influence Panel meets</p> <p>Service Monitoring Group meets</p> <p>4 Peer Flatmates Recruited and Trained</p> <p>September – 8 care experienced young people and 4 peer flatmates move into 4 flats.</p>	<p>Emma Clater / Steph Irvine</p> <p>Steph Irvine Research and Link Worker</p> <p>Rebecca Pringle</p> <p>Housing Support Provider /QMU</p> <p>Rebecca Pringle / Lisa Shine / Steph Irvine</p>	<p>Young people are selected for year 2 tenancies Tenancies are adequately furnished Tenants are supported to input into the project All stakeholders involved in the project meet to review and monitor the service.</p> <p>Peer Flatmates are trained to begin posts.</p> <p>My Place, My Space expands to 6 flats.</p>
Year 2, Quarter 3 Oct – Dec 19	<p>Tenant Influence Panel meets</p> <p>Service Monitoring Group meets</p>	<p>Research and Link Worker</p> <p>Rebecca Pringle</p>	<p>Tenants are supported to influence the project</p> <p>All stakeholders involved in the project meet to review and monitor the service.</p>
Year 2, Quarter 4 Jan – Mar 20	<p>Tenant Influence Panel meets</p> <p>Service Monitoring Group Meets</p>	<p>Research and Link Worker</p> <p>Rebecca Pringle</p>	<p>Tenants are supported to input into the project All stakeholders involved in the project meet to review and monitor the service.</p>

	Begin Evaluations for year 2 of project	Rebecca Pringle / Research and Link Worker	Evaluations begin to ensure continuous learning
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Year 3, Quarter 1 April – June 19	Finish Year 2 evaluation of project and implement necessary changes for year 3	Rebecca Pringle / Research and Link Worker	Evaluate against project aims and adapt as required.
	4 flats purchased on the open market	Estates Team / Rebecca Pringle	Properties bought for year 3.
	Tenant Influence Panel meets	Research and Link Worker	Tenants are supported to continue to influence the project.
	Service Monitoring Group meets and consideration future sustainability of project.	Rebecca Pringle	All stakeholders involved in the project meet to review and monitor the service.
	Targeted advertising for peer flatmates	QMU / Housing Support Provider	Raise the profile of peer flatmates ahead of recruitment
Year 3, Quarter 2 Jul – Sept 19	Property Maintenance Checks carried out	Property Maintenance/ Steph Irvine	Properties meet all required standards and are safe to move into.
	Wi-Fi / Furniture Set Up	Steph Irvine	Properties are adequately furnished
	Tenant Influence Panel Meet	Research and Link Worker	Tenants are supported to influence the project. Tenants are supported to take over facilitation of this group.

	<p>Service Monitoring Group meet</p> <p>September – 4 peer flatmates recruited and trained</p> <p>September – 8 care experienced young people and 4 peer flatmates move into new tenancies</p>	<p>Rebecca Pringle</p> <p>Housing Support Provider / QMU</p> <p>Rebecca Pringle / Lisa Shine / Steph Irvine</p>	<p>All stakeholders involved in the project meet to review and monitor the service.</p> <p>Peer Flatmates trained to commence role.</p> <p>Final year tenancies begin, with 20 care experienced young people in housing.</p>
<p>Year 3, Quarter 3 Oct – Dec 19</p>	<p>Tenants Influence Panel meets</p> <p>Service Monitoring Group meets</p> <p>Research and Link Worker post review and supported to move on</p>	<p>Research and Link Worker / Tenant</p> <p>Rebecca Pringle</p> <p>Sharon Berrie / Rebecca Pringle / Lisa Shine</p>	<p>Tenants are supported to influence the project.</p> <p>All stakeholders involved in the project meet to review and monitor the service.</p> <p>Research and Link Worker leaves post with a range of employable skills, ready to move on to a new position.</p>
<p>Year 3, Quarter 4 Jan – Mar 20</p>	<p>Tenant Influence Panel meets</p> <p>Service Monitoring Group meets</p>	<p>Tenant takes over as lead</p> <p>Rebecca Pringle</p>	<p>Tenants are supported to influence the project.</p> <p>All stakeholders involved in the project meet to review and monitor the service. Consideration of future sustainability of project key priority.</p>

	Begin whole project evaluations	Rebecca Pringle / Lisa Shine	Share evaluations with Life Changes Trust and partners. Ensure learning is integrated into Council structures.
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Integrated Impact Assessment Form

Promoting Equality, Human Rights and Sustainability



Integrated Impact Assessment Form

Promoting Equality, Human Rights and Sustainability

Title of Policy/ Proposal	My Place, My Space
Completion Date	2021
Completed by	Rebecca Pringle
Lead officer	Rebecca Pringle

Type of Initiative:

- | | | | |
|-----------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Policy/Strategy | <input type="checkbox"/> | New or Proposed | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| Programme/Plan | <input type="checkbox"/> | Changing/Updated | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Project | <input type="checkbox"/> | Review or existing | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Service | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | | |
| Function | <input type="checkbox"/> | | |
| Other | | | |

1. Briefly describe the policy/proposal you are assessing.

Set out a clear understanding of the purpose of the policy being developed or reviewed (e.g. objectives, aims) including the context within which it will operate.

My Place, My Space has three main components; the development of a new shared-living housing model, individual grants, and the creation of a full time job for one care experienced young person.

The key objective of My Place, My Space is to ‘Provide secure, safe and stable housing option for experienced young people in East Lothian. The project also aims to;

- Reduce isolation which many care experienced young people face when they have their own tenancy
- Provide care experienced young people with the tools and skills to live independently
- Improve physical and mental wellbeing through housing stability

The housing model will see the creation of ten 3 bed tenancies over a period of three years, all purchased on the open market as part of East Lothian Council’s Affordable Homes Programme; 2 in 2019, 4 in 2020 and a further 4 in 2021. The flats will consist of two care experienced young people and one ‘peer flatmate’. The peer flatmate will be recruited from Queen Margaret University and receive free rent and wi-fi along with all expenses covered. The Peer Flatmate will be an individual who has experienced of shared living and will act as a point of stability for the young people to bounce off of. Importantly, the Peer Flatmate is not a ‘Support’ worker. Housing Support will be provided by an independent housing provider which will be procured.

Each care experienced young person involved in the project will be given access to a grant of

£500 which they must apply for. This grant will aid young people to find a sense of home and belonging. For example, a young person might buy a year's gym membership in which they could meet like-minded people and develop friendships.

The creation of a Research & Link Worker position for a care experienced young person, reflects East Lothian Council's commitment to improving the life chances of care experienced young people. The position seeks to provide an individual with valuable skills and experience.

The project is underpinned by the following principles;

1. Trauma-informed: an understanding that the impact of trauma can be widespread, a commitment to recognising the signs and symptoms of trauma and responding by fully integrating knowledge about trauma into policies, procedures and practises. This will be include actively seeking to resist re-traumatising.
2. Resilience – a commitment to providing an adequate environment and support system to allow young people to; build further networks of support, develop skills to navigate services, understand and utilise their rights and responsibilities, and have the ability to engage in activities which seek to reduce inequalities.
3. Empowerment, Voice and Control – a commitment to providing an adequate environment and support system to enable young people to make informed choices, feel confident in their decision and be able to access the right information at the right time.
4. Equality and Diversity – a commitment to ensure that young people are treated equally, and enjoy an environment free from bullying, harassment and discrimination, where ethnic background, language, culture and faith are valued.

The context in which the My Place, My Space project will operate is as follows;

Housing in East Lothian is under significant pressure, with an increasing population, a rising demand for groups requiring one bedroom properties and rising costs of housing prices. There are currently 3,700 households on the Council's housing list and around 500 lets per annum. A shortage of affordable housing is a significant issue in East Lothian, with 370 additional affordable homes estimated to be needed each year until 2030. A lack of one bedroom properties, an unaffordable private rented sector, and a lack of flat sharing opportunities all impact upon the ability of care experienced young people to access sustainable housing.

East Lothian Council is committed to supporting the Scottish Government's 'More Homes Scotland' approach to provide 50,000 new affordable homes by 2020, with 35,000 for social rent. The commitment to £2.5million by East Lothian Council towards 10 flats, also supports the move towards a Rapid Rehousing Approach. Rapid Rehousing seeks to support individuals into permanent, mainstream accommodation as the first option. This recognises the harm and detrimental effect stays in B&B accommodation can have.

The Council's 15+ Team currently supports 110 care experienced young people, of which 70 are no longer looked after, to live independently where possible. However, 24 of these young people are living in inappropriate accommodation which includes, B&B, sofa surfing with

In a context of reduced public spending, the commitment to this project is anticipated to create significant savings. If 10 of the 20 individuals lived in the flat share scheme rather than a B&B for a period of a year, the estimated savings would total £297,600. The savings made from inappropriate accommodation can then be used to re-invest in the project once the funding has come to an end or look to develop alternative housing solutions and support for care experienced young people.

The 'My Space, My Place' project will provide a much needed housing solution in East Lothian for care experienced young people and for East Lothian Council to further develop their role as a corporate parent.

2. What will change as a result of this policy?

This policy will increase the Councils housing stock, bringing in 10 three bed properties. It will also reduce the number of individuals on the housing list, as all 20 of care experienced young people involved in the project will be registered on the housing list. Most importantly, it will contribute to changing the life chances on the young people involved. Through support from the housing provider, ELC and the experience of shared-living, the young people will develop resilience and knowledge of managing their own tenancy. It is hoped that this will positively impact on the young person's life chances, reducing the intensity of support required in later life.

The creation of the Research and Link Worker post for one care experienced young person will impact on further policies and protocols designed for care experienced young people and housing. They will support a culture change and education agenda with all housing staff, and promote the advantages of Corporate Parenting and the positive impact being a 'good corporate parent' can make on young people's life chances and outcomes.

3. Do I need to undertake an Integrated Impact Assessment?

High Relevance	Yes/no
1. The policy/ proposal has consequences for or affects people	Yes
2. The policy/proposal has potential to make a significant impact on equality	Yes
3. The policy/ proposal has the potential to make a significant impact on the economy and the delivery of economic outcomes	No
4. The policy/proposal is likely to have a significant environmental impact	No
Low Relevance	
5. The policy/proposal has little relevance to equality	No
6. The policy/proposal has negligible impact on the economy	Yes
7. The policy/proposal has no/ minimal impact on the environment	Yes
If you have identified low relevance please give a brief description of your reasoning here and send it to your Head of Service to record.	

If you have answered yes to 1, 2, or 3 above, please proceed to complete the Integrated Impact Assessment.

If you have identified that your project will have a significant environmental impact (4), you will need to consider whether you need to complete a Strategic Environmental Assessment.

4. What information/data/ consultation have you used to inform the policy to date?

Evidence	Comments: what does the evidence tell you?
Data on populations in need	<p>Data from 15+ Team in Children’s Services tells us that there are around 30 young people in out of area residential placements who will require to come back into East Lothian over the next xxx years.</p> <p>There are also around 24 young people currently in inappropriate accommodation i.e. sofa surfing, living with friends, in B&B accommodation.</p> <p>This evidence emphasises the lack of housing options for care experienced young people in East Lothian.</p>
Data on service uptake/access	The data above suggests that uptake of the housing model will be strong as it provide an alternative to the current limited options available.
Data on quality/outcomes	A range of academic evidence suggests that housing stability has a direct impact on life chances of care experienced young people.
Research/literature evidence	Using a range of academic evaluations and reports on ‘supportive flatmate’ model by Catch 22, Thames Reach and the Rock Trust, we compared models with the population we wanted to target in East Lothian and developed the Peer Flatmate Model as a combination of best practice and evidence.
Service user experience information	East Lothian Council was previously supported by the Life Changes Trust to set up The Champions Board. The Board was set up to give care experience young people a voice and influence change within East

	<p>Lothian Council. One of their most successful projects included a short film about their experience of the housing system in East Lothian. The impact of this film led to a roll out of Corporate Parent Awareness Sessions which were made compulsory for all Housing staff in 2018. These sessions were principally delivered by the Champions Board.</p> <p>The creation of 'My Space, My Place' bid is a direct result from the efforts of The Champion Board in raising awareness of the <i>need</i> for new models of housing in East Lothian. Through-out the creation of this bid, care experienced young people and The Champions Board have continued to be involved;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. One care experienced young person attended the prototype workshop facilitated by The Life Changes Trust. This was a critical time in processing our thoughts on the application, and the young person contributed to developing our thoughts around the model as well as the final idea for the submitted prototype. 2. The champions were briefed on the housing proposal and contributed to the design of the prototype using lego modelling. 3. Queen Margaret University facilitated a joint workshop between Care Experienced Students and members of East Lothian Council's Champions Board. During this workshop, the proposed model was discussed and critiqued by the young people. 4. Following a draft review of the bid by a team of Housing and Social Work Officers at East Lothian Council, the bid was then taken back to the Champions Board before the final model was created.
<p>Consultation and involvement findings</p>	<p>Please see above.</p> <p>It is anticipated that care experienced young people will continue to be involved, taking on key roles in the</p>

	<p>development of 'My Space, My Place' as it develops. The involvement will be as follows;</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The employment of a care experienced Research and Link Workers for a period of 18 months, not only provides this individual with meaningful job experience with assistance to move on, but will also aid the involvement of care experienced young people through-out East Lothian. One example of the work Research and Link Worker will be involved in is facilitating quarterly meetings with Peer Flatmates and Tenants to be fed back at the Operational Working Group, which they will occupy a permanent seat at. 2. As the project covers a three year period, with tenancies increasing each year care experienced tenants will take a key role in providing feedback, evaluation and shaping the next stage of tenancies. They will also work with Officers to create a measure for success. 3. During the development phase of 'My Space, My Place', as policies and protocols are shaped, The Champions Board will act as a consultation hub, where the policies are tested and evaluated.
Good practice guidelines	N/A
Other (please specify)	N/A
Is any further information required? How will you gather this?	N/A

5. How does the policy meet the different needs of groups in the community?

	Issues identified and how the strategy addresses these
Equality Groups	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Older people, people in the middle years, • Young people and children • Women, men and transgender people (includes issues relating to pregnancy and maternity) • Disabled people (includes physical disability, learning disability, sensory impairment, long-term medical conditions, mental health problems) • Minority ethnic people (includes Gypsy/Travellers, migrant workers, non-English speakers) • Refugees and asylum seekers • People with different religions or beliefs (includes people with no religion or belief) • Lesbian, gay, bisexual and heterosexual people • People who are unmarried, married or in a civil partnership 	<p>The 'My Place, My Space' housing model directly affects young people, and potentially young people who identify as being disabled or LGBT. The impact is expected to be a positive one, reflecting one of the core principles underpinning the project; Equality and Diversity – a commitment to ensure that young people are treated equally, and enjoy an environment free from bullying, harassment and discrimination, where ethnic background, language, culture and faith are valued.</p>
<p>Those vulnerable to falling into poverty</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unemployed • People on benefits • Single Parents and vulnerable families • Pensioners • Looked after children • Those leaving care settings (including children and young people and those with illness) 	<p>The My Place, My Space project directly impacts individuals leaving care settings or who have already left care. It seeks to give them housing stability, and an opportunity to experience shared living in a supportive environment. Having a stable home and being able to manage a home will directly impact in a positive way on an individual's ability to gain employment.</p> <p>The project also creates a position for one care experienced young person for 18 months. Managed via Who Cares?</p>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Homeless people • Carers (including young carers) • Those involved in the community justice system • Those living in the most deprived communities (bottom 20% SIMD areas) • People misusing services • People with low literacy/numeracy • Others e.g. veterans, students 	<p>Scotland the individual will be paid the Living Wage and be supported to gain a range of employable skills. They will also be supported in the months leading to the end of the position to seek new work opportunities.</p>
<p>Geographical communities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Rural/ semi rural communities • Urban Communities • Coastal communities 	<p>The project recognises that living in an urban community, with good travel links and leisure activities is important for care experienced young people. As such, the ten tenancies will be based within the Musselburgh area.</p>

6. Are there any other factors which will affect the way this policy impacts on the community or staff groups?

N/A

7. Is any part of this policy/ service to be carried out wholly or partly by contractors?

If yes, how have you included equality and human rights considerations into the contract?

This project will put the role of Housing Support out to tender and will single source Who Cares? Scotland as the Supervisor for the Research and Link Worker. The service specification will include provisions to ensure equality and human rights are safeguarded.

8. Have you considered how you will communicate information about this policy or policy change to those affected e.g. to those with hearing loss, speech impairment or English as a second language?

Information will be available to all care experienced young people about this new housing model and job role. Where required, the information can be communicated to an individual in a range of ways. For example; via word of mouth by 15+ social work team, via letters in a desired language and via East Lothian Council’s website.

9. Please consider how your policy will impact on each of the following?

Objectives	Comments
Equality and Human rights	
Promotes / advances equality of opportunity e.g. improves access to and quality of services, status	The project improve access to employment for care experienced young people via the creation of a position which requires the applicant to have care experience. Through this position, the changes made in policies and protocols will improve access to and quality of service received by care experienced young people. This may also positively impact on other disadvantaged groups such as young people who are homeless.
Promotes good relations within and between people with protected characteristics and tackles harassment	The creation of the Research and Link Worker role will foster positive relationships within the Housing department. This will contribute to a culture change which looks upon care experienced young people as an asset to our community, and reinforce East Lothian’s commitment to care experienced young people.
Promotes participation, inclusion, dignity and self control over decisions	It is anticipated that as the project develops, care experienced young people will continue to be involved. The employment of a care experienced Research and Link Worker ^s for a period of 18 months, not only provides this individual with meaningful job experience with assistance to move on, but will also aid the involvement of care experienced young people through-out East Lothian. One example of the work Research and Link Worker will be involved in is facilitating quarterly meetings with Peer Flatmates and Tenants to be fed back at the Operational Working Group, which they will occupy a permanent seat at. 1. As the project covers a three year period, with tenancies increasing each year care experienced

	<p>tenants will take a key role in providing feedback, evaluation and shaping the next stage of tenancies. They will also work with Officers to create a measure for success.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. During the development phase of 'My Space, My Place', as policies and protocols are shaped, The Champions Board will act as a consultation hub, where the policies are tested and evaluated. 3. A Tenant Influence Panel will be established with the help of East Lothian Tenants and Residents Panel (ELTRP). The panel will contribute to ongoing service evaluation.
Builds family support networks, resilience and community capacity	<p>The project is underpinned by the principle of Resilience. This includes a commitment to providing an adequate environment and support system to allow young people to; build further networks of support, develop skills to navigate services, understand and utilise rights and responsibilities, and have the ability to engage in activities which seek to reduce inequalities.</p> <p>This is also demonstrated by the £500 grant which will be available to all care experienced young people in the project to help them develop a sense of home and belonging.</p>
Reduces crime and fear of crime	<p>Through building networks of support and promoting resilience, it is hoped that individuals fear of crime will be reduced as they have support networks in place.</p>
<p>Promotes healthier lifestyles including</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • diet and nutrition, • sexual health, • substance misuse • Exercise and physical activity. • Lifeskills 	<p>The project will promote healthier lifestyles through a partnership with NHS Lothian which provides courses free of charge on; making choice keeping safe: sexual health and LD population, Health Behaviour Change, Scottish Mental Health First Aid for Young People.</p> <p>The requirement of the Peer Flatmate to facilitate weekly meals will also contribute to promoting healthier choices.</p>
Environmental	
Reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in East Lothian	n/a

(including carbon management)	
Plan for future climate change	
Pollution: air/ water/ soil/ noise	
Protect coastal and inland waters	
Enhance biodiversity	
Encourage resource efficiency (energy, water, materials and minerals)	
Public Safety: Minimise waste generation/ infection control/ accidental injury /fire risk	
Reduce need to travel / promote sustainable forms of transport	
Improves the physical environment e.g. housing quality, public and green space	
Economic	
Maximises income and /or reduces income inequality	The project will help care experienced young people into positive destinations by providing them with a stable environment and skills for managing a home. This will translate to workability skills and the ability to sustain employment. The creation of the Research and Link Worker post will directly help one individual into a paid job, improving their future destinations. The provision of affordable social housing for the care experienced young people will also seek to maximise their income and reduce income inequality.
Helps young people into positive destinations	
Supports local business	
Helps people to access jobs (both paid and unpaid)	
Improving literacy and numeracy	
Improves working conditions, including equal pay	
Improves local employment opportunities	

10. Action Plan

Identified negative impact	Mitigating circumstances	Mitigating actions	Timeline	Responsible person
n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a

11. Sign off by Head of Service

Name Douglas Proudfoot
Date 19/03/19